

Appl. No. 10/065,869
Docket No. 128653/GEM-0068

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NOV 09 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of labeling orthogonal images, the method comprising:

identifying a primary image taken in a first sagittal plane;

identifying a plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

associating a label to a point in the primary image;

calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associating the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

2. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the calculating is performed using the equation:

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and

(x_0, y_0) is the point.

3. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, further comprising:

identifying a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

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calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images; and
associating the label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, further comprising:
associating the label to a second point in the primary image;
calculating a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
associating the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.

5. (currently amended) A method of labeling orthogonal images, the method comprising:
identifying a primary image taken in a first sagittal plane;
identifying a plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;
associating a first label to a point in the primary image;
calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
associating a second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the calculating is performed using the equation:

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and

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(x_0, y_0) is the point.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, further comprising:
 - identifying a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;
 - calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images; and
 - associating the second label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.
8. (previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, further comprising:
 - associating the first label to a second point in the primary image;
 - calculating a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
 - associating the second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.
9. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
 - copying text associated with the first label to the second label.
10. (original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
 - deleting the second label upon deletion of the first label.
11. (currently amended) A storage computer readable medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for labeling orthogonal images, the storage

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computer readable medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method comprising:

- identifying a primary image taken in a first sagittal plane;
- identifying a plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;
- associating a label to a point in the primary image;
- calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
- associating the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

12. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the calculating is performed using the equation:

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and
(x_0, y_0) is the point.

13. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, wherein the method further comprises:

- identifying a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;
- calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images; and
- associating the label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

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14. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, wherein the method further comprises:

- associating the label to a second point in the primary image;
- calculating a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
- associating the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.

15. (currently amended) A storage computer readable medium encoded with machine-readable computer program code for labeling orthogonal images, the storage computer readable medium including instructions for causing a computer to implement a method comprising:

- identifying a primary image taken in a first sagittal plane;
- identifying a plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;
- associating a first label to a point in the primary image;
- calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and
- associating a second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

16. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the calculating is performed using the equation:

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and
 (x_0, y_0) is the point.

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17. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, wherein the method further comprises:

identifying a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

calculating a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images; and

associating the second label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

18. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, wherein the method further comprises:

associating the first label to a second point in the primary image;

calculating a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associating the second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.

19. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the method further comprises:

copying text associated with the first label to the second label.

20. (currently amended) The storage computer readable medium of claim 15, wherein the method further comprises:

deleting the second label upon deletion of the first label.

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21. (currently amended) A system for acquiring images of a target body, the system comprising:

an imaging device configured to provide a primary image and a plurality of secondary images of the target body, the primary image being taken at a first sagittal plane through the target body and the secondary images being taken at second axial planes through the target body and orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

a computer configured to receive the primary and secondary images from the imaging device, the computer further configured to:

associate a label to a point in the primary image;

calculate a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associate the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

22. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein the computer calculates the distance using the equation:

$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and

(x_0, y_0) is the point.

23. (currently amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, wherein the imaging device is further configured to provide a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane; and

wherein the computer is further configured to:

calculate a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images, and

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associate the label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, wherein the computer is further configured to:

associate the label to a second point in the primary image;

calculate a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associate the label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.

25. (currently amended) A system for acquiring images of a target body, the system comprising:

an imaging device configured to provide a primary image and a plurality of secondary images of the target body, the primary image being taken at a first sagittal plane through the target body and the secondary images being taken at second axial planes through the target body and orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

a computer configured to receive the primary and secondary images from the imaging device, the computer further configured to:

associate a first label to a point in the primary image;

calculate a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associate a second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

26. (original) The system of claim 25, wherein the computer calculates the distance using the equation:

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$$\frac{ax_0 + by_0 + c}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}}$$

where $ax_0 + by_0 + c$ is the line of intersection, and
(x_0, y_0) is the point.

27. (currently amended) The system of claim 25, wherein the plurality of secondary images is a first plurality of secondary images, wherein the computer is further configured to:

identify a second plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

calculate a distance from the point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the second plurality of images; and

associate the second label to a secondary image in the second plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the point.

28. (previously presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the point in the primary image is a first point in the primary image, wherein the computer is further configured to:

associate the first label to a second point in the primary image;

calculate a distance from the second point to a line of intersection between the primary image and each secondary image in the plurality of images; and

associate the second label to a secondary image in the plurality of secondary images having a line of intersection with the primary image closest to the second point.

29. (new) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the associating the label to the point in the primary image occurs subsequent to the identifying the primary image taken in the first sagittal plane and the identifying the plurality of secondary images taken in axial planes orthogonal to the first sagittal plane;

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the associating the label to the point in the primary image comprises:
 indicating a point on the primary image; and
 selecting a notation to be displayed at the indicated point.